

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously presented) A communication system comprising:
a plurality of communication terminals;
a distribution system for selectively delivering communication information between and among any of said terminals;
at least one home system associated with a subset of said terminals wherein at least one of said terminals is remote from said at least one home system, said home system including a distribution system for selectively accessing a plurality of applications;
said remote terminal including a communication information rerouting system for redirecting a portion of communication information, which had been originally directed to said remote terminal, for use in accessing an application of said plurality of applications to said at least one home system associated with said remote terminal; and
a system operative under control of a home system to which communication information has been redirected for accessing one or more of said applications and for providing information from accessed ones of said applications to said originally directed terminal.

44. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of said communication terminals is a wireless terminal.

45. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein said communication information rerouting system is responsive to origination identification data contained in said communication information.

46. (Previously presented) The system of claim 45 wherein said origination identification data comprises data chosen from the group consisting of:
Automatic Number Identification (ANI) signals;
Mobile Identification Number (MIN) signals; and
an e-mail address.

47. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least some of said plurality of applications are connected to access external information resources.

48. (Previously presented) The system of claim 47 wherein said external information resources are chosen from the group consisting of:
- the internet;
 - an electronic database;
 - a web-enabled database server; and
 - an interactive response unit (IRU) for providing voice, data, or multimedia messages.
49. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of said plurality of applications is a conference call application.
50. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of said plurality of applications is a number retrieval application.
51. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of said plurality of applications is an information update application.
52. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein said home system further includes a user profile of information pertaining to different subjects.
53. (Previously presented) The system of claim 52 wherein said remote terminal can access said user profile.
54. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of said plurality of terminals is a telephone having audio capability and a screen for displaying data communicated thereto from a selected one of said applications.
55. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein said rerouted communication information comprises all signals comprising a telephone call.
56. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein;
- said distribution system for selectively accessing a plurality of applications provides functionality not directly available to said remote terminal; and
 - said system operative under control of a home system facilitates operation of said remote terminal to provide functionality of said accessed ones of said applications not available to said remote terminal.

57. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein;
at least one of said terminals includes a means for accessing an associated home system so as to obtain from one or more of said accessed applications data necessary for the completion of a communication connection directed either to or from said terminal.

58. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of said plurality of terminals has audio capability for communicating with a plurality of other terminals under control of said communication system wherein said terminal has data capability for concurrently communicating with at least one of said applications.

59. (Previously presented) The system of claim 58 wherein said communication system controls the access to and from all of said applications in response to commands exchanged with said terminal having audio capability.

60. (Previously presented) A multi-platform, multimedia information and communication system connected to a communications network comprising:
a plurality of user terminals;
a distribution system for selectively delivering communication information to or from any of said terminals;
at least one server associated with a plurality of applications, said server further associated with at least a subset of said terminals, wherein at least one terminal is remote from said server; and
said remote terminal includes an information routing system for redirecting a portion of communication information, originally directed to said remote terminal, for use in accessing an application of said plurality of applications to said at least one server associated with said remote terminal.

61. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 60 wherein said at least one server further comprises a plurality of external data resources.

62. (Previously presented) The system of claim 61 wherein said external data resources are chosen from the group consisting of:

- the internet;
- an electronic database;
- a web-enabled database server; and
- an interactive response unit (IRU) for providing voice, data, or multimedia messages.

63. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 60 wherein said user terminals are chosen from the group consisting of:

- a conventional telephone;
- a conventional telephone equipped with a visual display;
- a wireless telephone;
- a paging device equipped with a visual display;
- a hand-held computing device (PDA);
- a personal computer (PC); and
- a network computer.

64. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 60 further including a function responsive to said server for sending communication information processed or obtained by one or more of said applications to one of said user terminals.

65. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 60 wherein said at least one server comprises:

- a plurality of local applications wherein said applications are selectively accessible by said plurality of user terminals and said at least one server;
- an internal database; and
- a plurality of internal connections wherein at least one of said plurality of internal connections link at least one of said plurality of local applications to said internal database.

66. (Previously presented) The system of claim 65 wherein at least one of said plurality of local applications is linked to at least one of said external data resources.

67. (Previously presented) The system of claim 65 wherein at least one of said plurality of local applications is chosen from the group consisting of:

- a pager application;
- a voice-mail application;
- a fax application;
- a conference call application;
- a number retrieval application; and
- an information update application.

68. (Previously presented) The system of claim 65 wherein said communication system further comprises an application processing means responsive to said at least one server for accessing one or more of said applications and providing said applications information redirected from said remote terminal.

69. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 60 wherein said information routing system redirects said communication information to said server associated with said terminal based on signals received by said user terminal during a telephone call.

70. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 69 wherein said signals are chosen from the group consisting of:

Automatic Number Identification signals received by said user terminal during a telephone call; and

Mobile Identification Number signals received by said user terminal during a wireless telephone call.

71. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 70 wherein said distribution system carries signals in audio, data, or video formats.

72. (Previously presented) A method for providing multimedia data services comprising the steps of:

associating at least one server with a plurality of user terminals over a communication network wherein said user terminals use said server to access functions of a home system that are available to said user terminals only through the use of said server;

receiving communication information from at least one of said user terminals;

accessing one or more of a plurality of applications of said home system providing said functions responsive to said communication information; and

sending communication information processed or obtained by said one or more of said plurality of applications to said at least one of said user terminals.

73. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 wherein said at least one server provides messaging services related to at least some of said plurality of user terminals.

74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 further including the steps of:
automatically sending notification signals to said at least some of said user terminals when said at least one server receives a message relating to said at least some of said user terminals; and

sending said message to related said user terminal responsive to a request sent by said terminal.

75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 further including the steps of:
automatically accessing one or more of said plurality of applications based on sender identification data contained in said message; and

sending communication data processed or obtained by said one or more of said applications to said at least some of said user terminals with said message.

76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 75 wherein said sender identification data includes data chosen from the group consisting of:

Automatic Number Identification (ANI) signals;

Mobile Identification Number (MIN) signals; and

an e-mail address.

77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 75 wherein said at least one server determines which one or more of said plurality of applications to run by accessing a user memory.

78. (Previously presented) A communication system comprising:
a local system remote from the public system for handling telecommunications to and from a plurality of communication devices;
a plurality of applications available to said devices, said availability being controlled by said local system;
means for allowing any such devices to selectively access any of said applications during a communication connection directed to or from said devices; and
means for extending the operation of said means for allowing any such devices to selectively access any of said applications to a select set of communication terminals remote from said local system.

79. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein at least one of said select set of remote communication terminals is a wireless phone.

80. (Previously presented) The system of claim 79 wherein said wireless phone connects to said local system using the public system.

81. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein at least some of said communication devices receives packet data.

82. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein at least some of said communication devices receives both packet data and continuous data.

83. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein at least one of said plurality of applications is a conference call application.

84. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein at least one of said plurality of applications is a number retrieval application.

85. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein at least one of said plurality of applications is an information update application.

86. (Previously presented) A communication system comprising:
a communication network;
a plurality of user terminals wherein at least one of said terminals is remote from a server system providing application execution for said remote terminal, said remote terminal including an intelligent information rerouting system for redirecting information originally sent to said remote terminal to said server system;
at least one server system having a plurality of local applications, said server system further having a user profile of said remote terminal available to an application of said plurality of applications; and
said server system operable to access said user profile searching for information associated with said redirected information wherein upon locating said information said server sends said located information to said remote terminal.

87. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 86 wherein said plurality of terminals is chosen from the group consisting of:
a conventional telephone;
a conventional telephone equipped with a visual display;
a wireless telephone;
a paging device equipped with a visual display;
a hand-held computing device (PDA);
a personal computer (PC); and
a network computer.

88. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 86 wherein said remote terminal includes a visual display.

89. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 88 wherein said located information is a telephone number of a calling party and is sent to said visual display of said remote terminal.

90. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 86 further comprising:
a plurality of external data resources wherein said server searches said external resources in response to said located information.

91. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 90 wherein said external data resources are chosen from the group consisting of:

- the internet;
- an electronic database;
- a web-enabled database server; and
- an interactive response unit (IRU) for providing voice, data, or multimedia messages.

92. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 86 wherein said plurality of applications is chosen from the group consisting of:

- a pager application;
- a voice-mail application;
- a fax application;
- a conference call application;
- a number retrieval application; and
- an information update application.

93. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 86 further comprising:

- a communication link between said remote terminal and an external interactive system wherein said remote terminal can access applications of said external interactive system only through said server.

94. (Previously presented) The communication system of claim 86 wherein said user profile of said remote terminal comprises:

- calling lists;
- calendars of activities;
- stock quotes;
- merchandise stock availability; and
- budget data;

95. (Previously presented) A communication system comprising:
a plurality of cellular telephones;
a plurality of applications for providing communication or information services, said plurality of applications including at least one application selected from the group consisting of a conference call application, a number retrieval application, an information update application, a voice-mail application, and a pager application; and
at least one home system associated with a cellular telephone of said plurality of cellular telephones, wherein said home system provides application processing using said plurality of applications in response to communications redirected by said cellular telephone, thereby providing functionality of one or more applications of said plurality of applications to one of said plurality of cellular telephones.